

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7101

To establish a task force to lower energy costs for the forest product industry and similar manufacturing operations, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 25, 2008

Mr. MICHAUD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To establish a task force to lower energy costs for the forest product industry and similar manufacturing operations, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. PULP AND PAPER ENERGY SECURITY TASK**  
4       **FORCE.**

5       (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6               (1) The terms “Department” and “Secretary”  
7       mean the Department of Energy and the Secretary  
8       thereof, respectively.

9               (2) The term “task force” means the task force  
10      established under subsection (b).

1 (b) ENERGY TASK FORCE.—

2 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-  
3 tablish a task force, to be known as the Pulp and  
4 Paper Energy Security Task Force, to address the  
5 energy needs of the forest product industry and  
6 similar manufacturing operations.

7 (2) DUTIES.—The task force shall—

8 (A) identify—

9 (i) the energy needs of the forest  
10 product industry and similar manufac-  
11 turing operations;

12 (ii) the programs and services pro-  
13 vided by the Federal Government, State  
14 governments, and nongovernment organi-  
15 zations that may serve to lower energy  
16 costs, including through the introduction  
17 or increased use of renewable fuels in pa-  
18 permaking operations and allied industries;

19 (B) assess the extent to which the pro-  
20 grams and services identified under subpara-  
21 graph (A)(ii) serve the needs identified under  
22 subparagraph (A)(i);

23 (C) make recommendations to the Sec-  
24 retary on how to more effectively serve the

1 needs identified under subparagraph (A)(i)  
2 through—

3 (i) programs and services identified  
4 under subparagraph (A)(ii);

5 (ii) new programs and services pro-  
6 moted by the task force; and

7 (iii) statutory changes.

8 (D) make recommendations on how the  
9 Secretary may promote—

10 (i) new programs and services that  
11 the task force recommends under subpara-  
12 graph (C)(ii); and

13 (ii) programs and services identified  
14 under subparagraph (A)(ii);

15 (E) make recommendations on how the  
16 Secretary may inform and educate with respect  
17 to—

18 (i) the needs identified under subpara-  
19 graph (A)(i);

20 (ii) new programs and services that  
21 the task force recommends under subpara-  
22 graph (C)(ii); and

23 (iii) programs and services identified  
24 under subparagraph (A)(ii);

1           (F) make recommendations on how the  
2           Secretary may more effectively work with public  
3           and private interests to address the energy  
4           needs of the forest product industry and similar  
5           manufacturing operations; and

6           (G) make recommendations on the creation  
7           of a permanent advisory board that would make  
8           recommendations to the Secretary on how to  
9           address the energy needs of the forest product  
10          industry and similar manufacturing operations.

11          (3) INTERNET WEBSITE RECOMMENDATIONS.—  
12          The task force shall make recommendations to the  
13          Secretary relating to the establishment of an Inter-  
14          net website to be used by the Department to receive  
15          and dispense information and resources with respect  
16          to the needs identified under paragraph (2)(A)(i)  
17          and the programs and services identified under para-  
18          graph (2)(A)(ii). As part of the recommendations,  
19          the task force shall identify the Internet sites of ap-  
20          propriate programs, services, and organizations, both  
21          public and private, to which the Internet website  
22          should link.

23          (4) EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—The task force  
24          shall make recommendations to the Secretary relat-  
25          ing to developing additional education materials and

1 programs with respect to the needs identified under  
2 paragraph (2)(A)(i).

3 (5) EXISTING MATERIALS.—The task force  
4 shall organize and distribute existing materials that  
5 inform and educate with respect to the needs identi-  
6 fied under paragraph (2)(A)(i) and the programs  
7 and services identified under paragraph (2)(A)(ii).

8 (6) COORDINATION WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE  
9 SECTOR.—In carrying out its responsibilities under  
10 this section, the task force shall coordinate with, and  
11 may accept materials and assistance as it determines  
12 appropriate from—

13 (A) any subordinate officer of the Sec-  
14 retary;

15 (B) other Federal agencies, their officers,  
16 or employees; and

17 (C) any other organization, entity, or per-  
18 son not described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

19 (7) CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR.—The task force  
20 shall have—

21 (A) a Chair, appointed by the Secretary;  
22 and

23 (B) a Vice-Chair, appointed by the Sec-  
24 retary, in consultation with appropriate non-

1 governmental organizations, entities, or per-  
2 sons.

3 (8) MEMBERS.—

4 (A) CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR.—The Chair  
5 and the Vice-Chair shall serve as members of  
6 the task force.

7 (B) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—

8 (i) IN GENERAL.—The task force shall  
9 have additional members, each of whom  
10 shall be appointed by the Chair, with the  
11 approval of the Secretary.

12 (ii) NUMBER OF MEMBERS.—The  
13 number of additional members shall be de-  
14 termined by the Chair, in consultation with  
15 the Secretary, except that—

16 (I) the additional members shall  
17 include, for each of the groups speci-  
18 fied in subparagraph (C), at least 1  
19 member appointed from within that  
20 group; and

21 (II) the number of additional  
22 members shall not exceed 13.

23 (C) GROUPS REPRESENTED.—The groups  
24 specified in this subparagraph are—

25 (i) subject matter experts;

(ii) labor unions representing employees of the forest product industry and similar manufacturing operations;

(iii) vendors of energy technologies to the forest product industry and similar manufacturing operations;

(iv) academics with expertise in the use of energy technologies within the forest product industry and similar manufacturing operations;

(v) the forest product industry and similar manufacturing operations trade associations;

(vi) Federal, State, or local agencies engaged in energy improvements and cost reductions at within the forest product industry and similar manufacturing operations.

(9) MEETINGS.—

(A) FREQUENCY.—The task force shall meet at least 2 times per year, and more frequently if necessary to perform its duties.

(B) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute a quorum.

1 (C) LOCATION.—The Secretary shall des-  
2 ignate, and make available to the task force, a  
3 location at a facility under the control of the  
4 Secretary for use by the task force for its meet-  
5 ings.

6 (D) MINUTES.—

7 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90  
8 days after each meeting, the task force  
9 shall publish the minutes of the meeting  
10 and shall submit to Secretary any findings  
11 or recommendations approved at the meet-  
12 ing.

13 (ii) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not  
14 later than 60 days after the date that the  
15 Secretary receives minutes under clause (i)  
16 the Secretary shall submit to the Com-  
17 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources  
18 and the Committee on Small Business and  
19 Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the  
20 Committee on Energy and Commerce and  
21 the Committee on Small Business of the  
22 House of Representatives such minutes, to-  
23 gether with any comments the Secretary  
24 considers appropriate.

25 (E) FINDINGS.—



1 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the  
2 date that the task force terminates under  
3 paragraph (13) the task force shall submit  
4 to the Secretary a final report on any find-  
5 ings and recommendations of the task  
6 force approved at a meeting of the task  
7 force.

8 (ii) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not  
9 later than 90 days after the date that the  
10 Administrator receives the report under  
11 clause (i), the Secretary shall submit to the  
12 Committee on Energy and Natural Re-  
13 sources and the Committee on Small Busi-  
14 ness and Entrepreneurship of the Senate  
15 and the Committee on Energy and Com-  
16 merce and the Committee on Small Busi-  
17 ness of the House of Representatives the  
18 full text of the report submitted under  
19 clause (i), together with any comments the  
20 Secretary considers appropriate.

21 (10) PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

22 (A) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—Each  
23 member of the task force shall serve without  
24 pay for their service on the task force.

1 (B) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of  
2 the task force shall receive travel expenses, in-  
3 cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, in ac-  
4 cordance with applicable provisions under sub-  
5 chapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States  
6 Code.

7 (C) DETAIL OF DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
8 EMPLOYEES.—The Secretary may detail, with-  
9 out reimbursement, any of the personnel of the  
10 Department to the task force to assist it in car-  
11 rying out its duties. Such a detail shall be with-  
12 out interruption or loss of civil status or privi-  
13 lege.

14 (D) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SUPPORT  
15 OF THE TASK FORCE.—Upon the request of the  
16 task force, the Secretary shall provide to the  
17 task force the administrative support services  
18 that the Secretary and the Chair jointly deter-  
19 mine to be necessary for the task force to carry  
20 out its duties.

21 (11) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—  
22 The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C.  
23 App.) shall not apply to the task force.

24 (12) STARTUP.—The initial appointment of the  
25 members of the task force shall be completed not

1 later than 90 days after the date of enactment of  
2 this section and the first meeting of the task force  
3 shall be not later than 180 days after the date of en-  
4 actment of this section.

5 (13) TERMINATION.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
7 subparagraph (B), the task force shall termi-  
8 nate at the end of fiscal year 2012.

9 (B) EXCEPTION.—If, as of the termination  
10 date under subparagraph (A), the task force  
11 has not complied with paragraph (9)(D) with  
12 respect to 1 or more meetings, then the task  
13 force shall continue after the termination date  
14 for the sole purpose of achieving compliance  
15 with paragraph (9)(D) with respect to those  
16 meetings.

17 (14) AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING.—There are  
18 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this sec-  
19 tion \$200,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through  
20 2012.

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